

REMARKS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority from U.S. Application No. 09/534,487 filed March 24, 2000, which is a continuation of, and claims priority from, U.S. Application No. 09/115,920 filed July 15, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,146,889, which is a continuation of, and claims priority from, U.S. Application No. 08/751,546 filed November 18, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,789,246, which is a divisional of, and claims priority from, U.S. Application No. 08/256,696 filed June 24, 1994, which is a continuation of, and claims priority from, U.S. Application No. 07/741,128 filed August 7, 1991, now abandoned, the entire disclosures of each of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Specification has been amended to provide the Cross-Reference to Related Applications data.

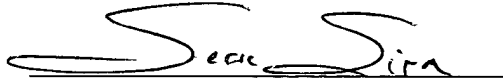
Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, and 14 are amended. Upon entry of these amendments, Claims 1-20 will be pending and under active consideration. Claims 1, 11, and 14 are independent.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, and 14 have been amended to point out more particularly and claim more distinctly that which Applicants regard as their invention by now reciting "hepatocyte precursor cells capable of differentiating into biliary cells". The amendment is supported fully by the claims and/or specification as originally filed and, thus, does not represent new subject matter. In particular, the amendment to claims 1, 2, 11, 12, and 14 finds support in the specification at page 16, lines 16-18.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified amendments to the specification and claims be made prior to the examination of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Serge Sira", written over a horizontal line.

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